

June 2000

IMPORT HEALTH REQUIREMENTS OF THE BAHAMAS FOR SHEEP EXPORTED FROM THE UNITED STATES

The sheep must be accompanied by a U.S. Origin Health Certificate issued by a veterinarian authorized by the U.S. Department of Agriculture and endorsed by a Veterinary Services (VS) veterinarian. The certificate must carry the names and addresses of the consignor and consignee and complete identification of the animals. In addition, the certificate must include the following certification statements and the results of the indicated testing:

CERTIFICATION STATEMENTS

1. The sheep were inspected by me on _____, which is within 30 days prior to the date of export, and were found healthy and free of evidence of any communicable disease, including ectoparasite infestation, and to my knowledge the sheep have not been exposed to any infectious disease of sheep within the last 60 days.
2. The sheep were isolated from the rest of the flock(s) of origin and from animals of other species for at least 30 days immediately prior to the date of export.
3. The flock(s) of origin is (are) clinically free of brucellosis (*B. melitensis*), Johne's disease, leptospirosis, listeriosis, and maedi/visna (ovine progressive pneumonia, OPP).
4. No clinical cases of maedi-visna have been diagnosed in the flock(s) of origin in the last 36 months.
5. No case of scrapie has been diagnosed in the flock(s) of origin in the last 5 years; no case of scrapie has been diagnosed in any flock within 50 miles of the flock(s) of origin in the last 6 months; and none of the sheep are the progeny of a sire or dam diagnosed with scrapie.
6. The sheep were treated for ectoparasites on _____, which is within 30 days prior to the date of export, with _____.
7. The sheep were treated for internal parasites on _____, which is within 7 days prior to the date of export, with _____, (a) product(s) which provide(s) broad-spectrum coverage against cestodes, nematodes, and trematodes.

TEST REQUIREMENTS

Within 30 days of export, the sheep must be tested as prescribed below and found negative:

1. Tuberculosis: Intradermal caudal fold test using bovine PPD tuberculin.

2. Brucellosis: Serum agglutination test (e.g., Card test) at a VS-certified laboratory or *B. abortus* complement fixation test (cold) at a 1:10 dilution.
3. Leptospirosis: Microagglutination test at a 1:100 dilution for serovars *canicola*, *grippotyphosa*, *hardjo*, *icterohaemorrhagiae*, and *pomona*.
4. Maedi-Visna: Agar-gel immunodiffusion test.

EMBARKATION CERTIFICATION

At the port of embarkation, a VS port veterinarian must attach to the U.S Origin Health Certificate a completed VS Form 17-37, Certificate of Inspection of Export Animals, showing:

1. The name and address of the consignor.
2. The name and address of the consignee.
3. The number and species of animals to be shipped.
4. A statement that the animals have been given a careful veterinary inspection at the port of embarkation and found free of evidence of communicable disease and exposure thereto within 24 hours of exportation.

OTHER INFORMATION

1. The sheep must be accompanied by a medical history of the flock(s) of origin which should be documented by the veterinarian(s) servicing the flock(s) and contain information such as the flock health maintenance regimen, as well as stating any flock health problems.
2. None of the sheep may be older than 3 years.
3. The Veterinary Division of the Department of Agriculture of the Bahamas must be notified of the shipment at least 7 days prior to the scheduled date of arrival.
4. Incomplete documentation or the finding of communicable disease among the animals at the port of entry may result in them being refused admission.
5. Any outbreak of foot-and-mouth disease, rinderpest, or other exotic disease of ruminants in the U.S. will immediately nullify the import permit.